

NEWS RELEASE

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California's unemployment rate decreases to 10.8 percent ***Nonfarm payroll jobs increase by 33,900***

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate decreased to 10.8 percent in May, and nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 33,900 during the month for a total gain of 425,000 jobs since the recovery began in September 2009, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate increased in May to 8.2 percent.

In April, the state's unemployment rate was 10.9 percent, and in May 2011, the unemployment rate was 11.9 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,276,400 in May, an increase of 33,900 jobs over the month, according to a survey of businesses that is larger and less variable statistically. The survey of 42,000 California businesses measures jobs in the economy. The year-over-year change (May 2011 to May 2012) shows an increase of 221,500 jobs (up 1.6 percent).

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA

The federal survey of households, done with a smaller sample than the survey of employers, shows an increase in the number of employed people. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in May was 16,501,000, an increase of 25,000 from April, and up 333,000 from the employment total in May of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 1,994,000 – down by 12,000 over the month, and down by 182,000 compared with May of last year.

(more)

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,276,400 in May, a net gain of 33,900 jobs since the April survey. This followed a gain of 1,300 jobs (as revised) in April.

Eight categories (mining and logging; construction; manufacturing; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality) added jobs over the month, gaining 42,100 jobs. Leisure and hospitality posted the largest increase over the month, adding 13,200 jobs.

Three categories (trade, transportation and utilities; other services; and government) reported job declines over the month, down 8,200 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities and government posted the largest decreases over the month, each down 3,300 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (May 2011 to May 2012), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 221,500 jobs (up 1.6 percent).

Eight categories (mining and logging; construction; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality) posted job gains over the year, adding 268,000 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gain on a numerical basis, adding 87,900 jobs (up 4.1 percent). Mining and logging posted the largest gain on a percentage basis, up 4.6 percent (an increase of 1,300 jobs).

Three categories (manufacturing; other services; and government) posted job declines over the year, down 46,500 jobs. Government posted the largest decline on a numerical basis, down by 37,000 jobs (a 1.5 percent decline). Other services posted the largest decline on a percentage basis, down 1.6 percent (a decrease of 7,700 jobs).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 515,434 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the May survey week. This compares with 552,163 last month and 553,041 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 57,545 in May 2012, compared with 63,212 in April and 65,115 in May of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	May 2012 (prelim.)	April 2012 (revised)	May 2011	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	14,276.4	14,242.5	14,054.9	1.6
Mining and logging	29.5	29.3	28.2	4.6
Construction	563.2	560.6	551.5	2.1
Manufacturing	1,247.2	1,244.2	1,249.0	-0.1
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,704.0	2,707.3	2,659.7	1.7
Information	447.0	446.0	428.1	4.4
Financial activities	770.7	769.6	759.9	1.4
Professional and business services	2,208.4	2,197.9	2,120.5	4.1
Educational and health services	1,879.6	1,869.1	1,824.4	3.0
Leisure and hospitality	1,567.6	1,554.4	1,529.7	2.5
Other services	481.0	482.6	488.7	-1.6
Government*	2,378.2	2,381.5	2,415.2	-1.5
Agriculture	377.9	384.2	375.8	0.6

*Includes all civilian employees of federal, state, and local governments.

TABLE A

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	May 2012 (prelim.)	April 2012 (revised)	March 2012	May 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,494,000	18,482,000	18,487,000	18,344,000
Total civilian employment	16,501,000	16,476,000	16,456,000	16,168,000
Unemployment	1,994,000	2,006,000	2,031,000	2,176,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	10.8	10.9	11.0	11.9
US seasonally adjusted rate % .	8.2	8.1	8.2	9.0

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	May 2012 (prelim.)	April 2012 (revised)	March 2012	May 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,431,000	18,367,000	18,499,000	18,303,000
Total civilian employment	16,519,000	16,436,000	16,379,000	16,210,000
Unemployment	1,912,000	1,931,000	2,120,000	2,093,000
Unadjusted rate %	10.4	10.5	11.5	11.4

^a Labor force by place of residence including workers involved in trade disputes.

² Seasonal adjustment is a statistical method that removes typical employment patterns that occur at various times throughout the year (e.g., additional retail hiring during the holiday season).

MONTHLY LABOR FORCE DATA FOR COUNTIES
May 2012 (Preliminary); 2011 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE *
STATE TOTAL	18,431,200	16,519,000	1,912,200	10.4%
ALAMEDA	762,700	693,600	69,100	9.1%
ALPINE	420	350	60	15.3%
AMADOR	16,470	14,530	1,940	11.8%
BUTTE	101,000	88,700	12,300	12.2%
CALAVERAS	19,510	16,990	2,520	12.9%
COLUSA	11,740	9,490	2,250	19.2%
CONTRA COSTA	524,900	477,600	47,400	9.0%
DEL NORTE	11,410	9,920	1,490	13.0%
EL DORADO	91,100	81,100	10,000	11.0%
FRESNO	450,600	383,300	67,300	14.9%
GLENN	12,950	11,080	1,870	14.4%
HUMBOLDT	60,600	54,400	6,100	10.1%
IMPERIAL	77,900	57,100	20,900	26.8%
INYO	9,350	8,490	850	9.1%
KERN	384,300	332,000	52,200	13.6%
KINGS	62,600	53,300	9,300	14.8%
LAKE	25,800	22,000	3,800	14.7%
LASSEN	12,900	11,260	1,640	12.7%
LOS ANGELES	4,880,100	4,340,100	540,000	11.1%
MADERA	65,300	55,900	9,400	14.3%
MARIN	137,600	129,000	8,600	6.3%
MARIPOSA	9,360	8,380	990	10.5%
MENDOCINO	42,160	38,090	4,070	9.7%
MERCED	109,100	90,300	18,900	17.3%
MODOC	3,720	3,190	520	14.1%
MONO	8,120	7,150	970	12.0%
MONTEREY	235,000	211,700	23,300	9.9%
NAPA	77,400	71,600	5,800	7.5%
NEVADA	50,450	45,570	4,880	9.7%
ORANGE	1,612,100	1,491,600	120,500	7.5%
PLACER	175,000	157,900	17,200	9.8%
PLUMAS	9,330	7,970	1,360	14.5%
RIVERSIDE	933,300	823,300	110,000	11.8%
SACRAMENTO	670,600	600,500	70,100	10.5%
SAN BENITO	27,000	23,000	4,000	14.9%
SAN BERNARDINO	861,000	758,800	102,200	11.9%
SAN DIEGO	1,584,000	1,444,900	139,100	8.8%
SAN FRANCISCO	469,700	435,000	34,700	7.4%
SAN JOAQUIN	308,800	264,000	44,800	14.5%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	142,300	131,200	11,100	7.8%
SAN MATEO	386,800	360,400	26,400	6.8%
SANTA BARBARA	232,500	215,300	17,200	7.4%
SANTA CLARA	910,600	835,800	74,800	8.2%
SANTA CRUZ	155,800	139,600	16,200	10.4%
SHASTA	85,200	74,400	10,900	12.7%
SIERRA	1,680	1,470	210	12.4%
SISKIYOU	19,280	16,380	2,910	15.1%
SOLANO	217,000	195,200	21,800	10.1%
SONOMA	260,600	238,900	21,700	8.3%
STANISLAUS	234,800	198,200	36,600	15.6%
SUTTER	43,400	35,200	8,200	18.9%
TEHAMA	24,760	21,240	3,520	14.2%
TRINITY	4,840	4,050	790	16.3%
TULARE	215,500	183,900	31,600	14.7%
TUOLUMNE	25,780	22,760	3,030	11.7%
VENTURA	440,400	402,300	38,100	8.6%
YOLO	97,000	86,600	10,500	10.8%
YUBA	27,500	23,000	4,500	16.4%

*Not seasonally adjusted

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